

**From:** Thomas Farrell  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 11/6/01 8:44pm  
**Subject:** Proposed microsoft settlement

Hi,

I have read with horror the news stories about the DOJ's proposed settlement with Microsoft. While I would be pleased to see the case settled, as a computer professional I know it is vitally important that Microsoft be brought under control in order for the computer and software industry to have a future.

I don't believe the proposed settlement will do anything to help prevent Microsoft from further extending its monopolies or crushing its potential competition out of business. There are way too many loopholes. Microsoft gets to say way too much about what it will or will not do under the proposed settlement.

Furthermore, since Microsoft has already been found to be a lawbreaking organization, I don't trust them to obey whatever settlement they may agree to, and would expect there to be very harsh penalties specified for noncompliance. I don't believe the proposed settlement has such penalties.

Finally, because Microsoft has already been found to have broken the law, as a taxpayer I expect them to pay for all of the government's legal costs and the court's costs incurred in this case. I find it unconscionable that the DOJ would allow Microsoft to settle without reimbursing the taxpayers' expenses.

In short, I am deeply upset that the DOJ has agreed with this proposed settlement, and strongly protest allowing it to go forward.

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